

Application No.: 09/974,514

Docket No.: JCLA8093

AMENDMENTSRECEIVED  
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Please amend claims as follows:

**Claims 1-7 (canceled)**

8. (currently amended) A recording medium loading apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium transfer mechanism, for transferring an inserted recording medium between an eject position and a loaded position via a loading start position;

a driving device for driving the recording medium transfer mechanism; and

a control device for controlling the driving device, wherein

between the eject position and the loading start position ~~in front of the insertion direction~~ of the recording medium, the control device performs a control process such that the driving device generates a driving force having a first magnitude ~~that the recording medium transfer mechanism is not operated~~;

between the loading start position and the loaded position of the recording medium, the control device performs a control process such that the driving device generates a driving force having a second magnitude;

the driving force having the first magnitude is larger than zero but smaller than the driving force having the second magnitude, and is insufficient for the recording medium transfer mechanism to transfer the recording medium; and

the driving force having the second magnitude is sufficient for the recording medium transfer mechanism to transfer the recording medium,

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wherein the recording medium transfer mechanism  
transfers the recording medium with a combined force of the driving force having the first  
magnitude generated by the driving device and an insertion force of an operator on the recording  
medium between the eject position and the loading start position of the recording medium; and  
transfers the recording medium with the driving force having the second magnitude  
generated by the driving device between the loading start position and the loaded position of the  
recording medium.

**Claims 9-11 (canceled)**

12. (currently amended) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

a base with a recording medium driving means for rotationally driving the recording medium; and

a clamper mechanism for clamping the recording medium on the recording medium driving means; and

~~a recording medium determination means for determining a recording medium type of the inserted recording medium,~~

~~wherein when the recording medium type is determined by the recording medium determination means it is determined that the disc detecting switch is turned on, and after the recording medium transfer mechanism is activated to transfer the recording medium to a proper loaded position corresponding to the determined type of an inserted recording medium type, and~~

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the control device activates the clamper mechanism to clamp the recording medium on the recording medium driving means.

13. (currently amended) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium transfer ~~means~~ mechanism further comprises:

a holder; and

a carrier capable of loading the recording mediums of different types and movably supported on the holder, wherein the recording medium is transported between the eject position and the loaded position,

wherein the clamper mechanism moves one of the holder and the base to approximate the other one, so as to clamp the recording medium on the recording medium driving means.

14. (currently amended) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium determination means is constructed to determine whether an inserted ~~disc~~ recording medium is a disc-shaped recording medium received within a cartridge or a disc-shaped recording medium without being received within a cartridge.

15. (currently amended) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium determination means is constructed to determine whether an inserted ~~disc~~ recording medium is a disc-shaped recording medium with a diameter of 8cm, or a disc-shaped recording medium with a diameter of 12cm.

**Claim 16 (canceled)**

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17. (new) A recording medium loading apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium transfer mechanism, comprising a disc detecting switch, for receiving and transferring a recording medium between an eject position and a loaded position, wherein when an inserted recording medium comes in physical contact with the disc detecting switch, the disc detecting switch is turned on, otherwise the disc detecting switch is turned off;

a driving device, for driving the recording medium transfer mechanism; and

a control device, for controlling the driving device according to a status of the disc detecting switch.

18. (new) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 17, wherein when the disc detecting switch is turned off, the recording medium transfer mechanism is rendered non-operational so that the recording medium is prevented from being loaded into the recording medium loading apparatus.

19. (new) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 17, wherein the recording medium transfer mechanism further comprises:

a holder;

a carrier capable of loading the recording medium and movably supported on the holder, wherein the recording medium is transported between the eject position and the loaded position;

and

a carrier position detection means for detecting a carrier position with respect to the holder, and comprising a switch arranged on the carrier to be turned on/off by an operation and a switch operation member for operating the switch according to a movement of the carrier,

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wherein the switch operation member performs different operations to the switch at each predetermined detection positions of the carrier.

20. (new) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 19, wherein the switch is turned on/off by pressing or releasing the switch, and the switch operation member is constructed by a switch pressing cam unit to press or release the switch according to the carrier position.

21. (new) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 20, wherein the switch pressing cam unit comprises a plurality of switch pressing cams and a switch number is the same as the switch pressing cams, and wherein by an on/off combination of the switches, the carrier position is detected.

22. (new) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:  
a base with a recording medium driving means for rotationally driving the recording medium; and

a clamper mechanism for clamping the recording medium on the recording medium driving means, wherein when it is determined that the disc detecting switch is turned on, the recording medium transfer mechanism is activated to transfer the recording medium to a proper loaded position corresponding to a recording medium type, and the control device activates the clamper mechanism to clamp the recording medium on the recording medium driving means.